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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE CIVIL CODE OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE. As enacted on August 18, 1896, with the Introductory Statute enacted on the same date. (In effect January 1, 1900). Translated by Walter Loewy, B.L. (Univ. of Calif.), LL.B. (Univ. of Pa.), J.W.D. (Heidelberg), Attorney-at-law, San Francisco, Calif. Translated and Published under the auspices of, and annotated by a Special Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. Boston: The Boston Book Company, 1909, pp. lxxi, 689.

This translation was started by Dr. Loewy in 1906, under the direction of a committee consisting of Messrs. William Draper Lewis, William W. Smithers and Charles Wetherell. It was interrupted by the San Francisco fire with the destruction of Dr. Loewy's library and, when resumed, the original plan of publishing a commentary with the translation was given up because of the appearance, in 1907, of Dr. Ernest J. Schuster's "The Principles of German Civil Law." On account of this delay, also, the translation of Mr. Chung Hui Wang appeared some time before the present one.

A very interesting "Historical Introduction" by William W. Smithers, an "Analytical Introduction" by the translator, Important Statutes of the German Empire, with lists of abbreviations and references, and of divisions and titles of the Code precede the translation.

The peculiar difficulties in the translation of this thoroughly German legal document are acknowledged by the translator and he confesses his occasional resort to the "liberal translation" for passages which have no exact English equivalent. In many instances he has printed in parentheses the German equivalents of doubtful passages so that a reader with knowledge of German may apply the necessary corrective. In general it may be said that the English as such is not so idiomatic as is that of the Wang Translation, but this lack of style is possibly compensated for by the greater clearness of the literal "upsetting." It is to be regretted, however, that in the terms *Sachenrecht*, *Familienrecht* and *Erbrecht* the "recht" has been translated by "right" instead of by "law." This makes the title of the second book "Rights of Things" and exposes the translator to all the virulent criticism that has been poured out on Blackstone for this translation of the *jura rerum* of the Roman legalists. It might be argued that American and English lawyers are familiar with this translation from Blackstone, solecism though it is, but it apparently leads Dr. Loewy to the use of "right" instead of "law" in the titles of Book IV and Book V, and gets the titles of all of the last three books out of harmony with that of Book II which he gives as the *Law* of Obligations. Both Schuster and Wang have used the term law instead of right in each of these titles. This seems to conduce to clarity and consistency of nomenclature, and we may well leave to the Germans themselves the decision

of the question as to whether they are presenting in their code a body of Recht in the objective or the subjective sense.

An especially valuable feature of Dr. Loewy's translation is the elaborate cross reference to most of the modern European and Spanish American Civil Codes.

J. H. D.

THE CORPORATION MANUAL AND CYCLOPEDIA OF CORPORATION FORMS AND PRECEDENTS. Edited by John S. Parker, of the New York Bar. New York: Corporation Manual Company, 1910, 16th Edition, pp. xvi, 1904.

This edition follows the plan of the 15th edition in setting forth the statutory provisions of the several states and territories of the United States including Alaska, Philippine Islands and Porto Rico, relating to the organization, management, regulation, and taxation of domestic business corporations, and the admission, regulation and taxation of foreign corporations doing business in the several states and territories, all arranged under one uniform classification for all the states with the same section numbers for each. The main headings of the classification are the same as the main headings in the American and Decennial Digest headings of the subject of Corporations. This device makes it easy to compare the provisions of the various states, and facilitates the search in the digests for decisions construing similar statutory provisions. So far as it is possible the exact words of the statutory provisions are given. In addition to Mr. Parker's editorial supervision, he has been aided by an editorial staff composed of Franklin A. Wagner, George Tumpson, and Frederick W. Keasbey, with 49 associate editors in the various states. For the most part the associate editor for any state lives in the state whose laws he edits, and is in a position to know the details of the practice of his state. The exceptions are Alaska, Philippine Islands, Wyoming and Mexico. The writer, in the extensive use of the 15th edition has found it to be extraordinarily accurate for the statutes as they existed at that time (1908). Tests of this new edition in several cases where statutory changes have been made show the same care and accuracy. One or more sessions of the legislature have been held in each of the states and territories since the 15th edition was published. For some states the changes have been such as to require a rewriting of the material in former editions. The corporation laws of Canada have been omitted from this edition, but the Federal statutes affecting business corporations including the Sherman Anti-trust Act, the Elkins Act, the Anti-trust provisions of the Wilson tariff Act, the Expedition Act, the Commerce and Labor Act establishing a Bureau of Corporations, and the Federal Corporation Tax Law with the Regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury concerning the same are given. The forms and precedents include the forms for each state in actual use, 70 general forms including option contracts, underwriter's agreement, corporate bonds, debentures, mortgages, and deeds of trust; also 270 "special object and purpose" charter clauses, 11 "general object" charter clauses, 12 "regulating" charter clauses, and acknowledgments and proofs for all the states. Such a work as this is practically indispensable to the practicing lawyer who has or is likely to have a corporation that does business in other states, for a client. H. L. W.